

MEMORANDUM

Engineering Division



To: Recycling & Source Reduction Advisory Commission

From: Leslie Stobbe, Public Information Specialist

Subject: SOLID WASTE SERVICES HISTORY

Date: July 14, 2014

PURPOSE

This memorandum provides history of solid waste recycling programs and related services for residential and business communities.

HISTORY

1973 Mandatory garbage service initiated with a franchised hauler (San Jose Scavenger) and "Free Dump Day" became available to Milpitas residents.

Sept. 1986 New 21-year agreement begins with Browning-Ferris Industries (BFI).

Jan. 1989 California Integrated Waste Management Act (AB939) requires 25% disposal reduction of landfilled waste (based on 1991 tonnage reporting) by 1995 and 50% disposal reduction by 2000.

Jan. 1991 Single family curbside recycling begins (newspaper, glass bottles/jars, aluminum and tin cans, plastic containers bottom-stamped with #1 or #2, used motor oil).

Aug. 1991 Source Reduction and Recycling Element (SRRE) and Household Hazardous Waste Element (HHWE) completed as required by AB939.

Oct. 1991 Recycling & Source Reduction Advisory Committee formed to serve as advisory body to the City Council on implementation of the SRRE and HHWE and to monitor the City's disposal reduction goal achievement.

March 1994 Single family curbside recycling program expands to collect mixed paper.

April 1994 Commercial recycling program begins (office waste paper & cardboard) at no additional cost (program is subsidized in front load garbage rates).

June 1994 Multi-family recycling program begins (newspaper, mixed paper, glass bottles/jars, aluminum and tin cans, plastic containers bottom-stamped with #1 or #2).

March 1996 Single family yard trimmings recycling begins after one-year pilot test.

Sept. 1996 The Recycling & Composting Project, a collaborate effort with Milpitas Unified School District (MUSD) science specialists, offers a schedule and custom lesson

plans for in-school recycling and composting projects, starts classroom instruction in the nine MUSD elementary schools.

- April 1997 City and BFI staff conduct the first compost giveaway at the Great Mall of the Bay Area. 570 bags distributed (1 bag per household).
- Aug. 1997 California Integrated Waste management Board (CIWMD) certifies City's 42% disposal reduction achievement for 1996.
- Sept. 1998 MUSD elementary schools receive entertaining and educational recycling and composting assemblies every year. New lessons added to project binder.
- June 1999 Commercial diversion tracking at the Newby Island Landfill expands to include construction and demolition debris recycled from Milpitas sites.
- Feb. 2000 Boilerplate contract language for City public works projects modified to include recycling of asphalt, concrete and other debris from roadwork.
- April 2000 Annual compost giveaway merges with the new Arbor Day Celebration. 635 bags distributed (first year that 2 bags are offered to each household).
- May 2000 First development guidelines for commercial solid waste enclosures issued (to ensure inclusion of recycling bins in new and redevelopment).
- March 2001 Commercial Recycling Programs accepts plastic types 3 – 7 (packaging materials). New services introduced to support recycling and garbage services for high-density housing.
- August 2001 Construction and demolition debris recycling reporting becomes a condition of large-scale commercial demolitions.
- Oct. 2001 Customer service study of inquiries and responses conducted. Curbside service field checks conducted with survey completed in January 2002.
- Feb. 2002 Council adopts Environmentally Preferable Procurement Policy.
- Feb. 2002 CIWMB certifies City's 56% disposal reduction achievement for 2000.
- May 2002 Analysis of the Commercial Recycling Program shows that 58% of Milpitas commercial customers use this "no additional cost" service. Staff is researching targeting business sectors for the coming fiscal year.
- March 2006 Single Stream Recycling (roll-out of a single recycling cart) begins with added materials.
- May 2012 86% of Milpitas businesses participate in the Commercial Recycling Program.